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HONOLULU, H. T., OCT. 25, 1901

THE GRAND JURY REPORT.

The grand jury which completed its labors yesterday was the fourth body of the kind to be empaneled in this city. That our citizens are learning the duties of grand jurors is shown by the very superior report presented by this latest grand jury. It is concise and telling in its denunciation of negligence on the part of Territorial officials and it is equally direct in commending where commendations are deserved. Other grand juries have been composed of excellent men, but in making up their final reports they have been lacking in that directness and business air so noticeable in the report submitted to Judge Gear yesterday. The jury which has just completed its labors was empaneled on September 19th and was in session five weeks. It was as Judge Gear well said a grand jury.

Many questions of public interest were investigated by the jury and its recommendations and suggestions should certainly bear good fruit. The Republican takes especial pride in what it has to say about the closing of the night schools. This paper alone and unaided has called attention to the closing of the night schools denouncing the act not only as a mistake but as a wrong to the community at large. Dozens of the foremost citizens of the community were interviewed upon the subject and all pronounced the closing of the night schools a most serious error. The discussion was carried on in this paper devoid of any personal animus or malice, but solely upon the broad ground of public policy. The spending of money for useless and worthless fads in the schools has been pointed out and a way shown to cut off expenses of this kind and thereby provide for the maintenance of the night schools. The grand jury after investigating the question says:

In the matter of the discontinuation of night schools in the city of Honolulu the grand jury is of the opinion that such action was unwise for the general reason that ignorance and crime often go hand in hand, and for the special reason that drunkenness, at least, seems, by reliable testimony, to have increased in special localities since these schools were abandoned.

But the most startling part of the report is that pertaining to the condition of the Insane Asylum. The grand jury investigated this institution with far more than the usual care and its report bears proof of this. And by the way a more scathing denunciation of the utter incompetency of the Dole administration could not be penned than that contained in this grand jury report. As the jury well says, three former grand juries have called attention to the awful conditions existing at the Insane Asylum and yet the Territorial administration has made no effort to better the condition of affairs. True the rock blasting has been stopped but the terrible unsanitary condition of portions of some of the buildings has been repeatedly pointed out without the least effort being made to remedy them. In fact the report on the condition of some of the wards is so scathing that we only wonder that the grand jury did not return indictments against those in whose care the Asylum is placed, for neglect of duty and malfeasance in office.

The awful condition of Ward No. 2 has been pointed out by three preceding grand juries and yet neither the Territorial officials nor the Board of Health have made any effort whatever to improve its condition or to provide other quarters for the inmates. And then to think that the insane patients of this institution are compelled to drink out of old tomato cans. There was no difficulty in setting aside sufficient money by the Territorial administration to send the late Land Commissioner to Washington to lobby for a repeal of a clause in Section 55 of the Organic Act, but no way could be found by the administration, apparently, to provide the small amount of money necessary to place Ward No. 2 in a proper sanitary condition.

"Its floors and porches and foundations are decayed and the building is unfit for its present occupancy," says the grand jury.

As to the kitchen this is what the grand jury says of it:

"The utensils are old and badly worn and for drinking cups the patients use old tomato cans."

Think of it! In this pretended Christian community compelling the inmates of an Insane Asylum to drink out of old tomato cans. It is the most outrageous, the most damnable condition of affairs that has been exposed

In connection with any institution of this character any place in the world in the last generation. The exposure of abuses in the Insane Asylums of the states in the last thirty years are not to be compared with the conditions found prevailing at the Insane Asylum of Hawaii by the grand jury which visited that institution on October 7th.

And the blame for this terrible condition of affairs must rest on the shoulders of the men who now conduct the affairs of this Territory.

CONGRESS OF THE AMERICAS.

A very important gathering assembled in the City of Mexico on October 21, representatives of all the independent nations of the American continent meeting in that city to discuss questions of vital interest to all of them. The United States sent several delegates and so did every other nation between this country and Patagonia. There were doubts for a time as to whether Chili and Peru would be represented. Chili herself was the obstruction in this case, but whatever impediment was placed in the way of Pan-American harmony by that country has been removed. Even the Venezuelan-Colombian unpleasantness will not be allowed to interfere with the representation of those countries at the congress. All the countries of Central America are also represented there.

Aside from the sentimental interest which the United States has in the gathering in the City of Mexico, it has a direct financial concern in that affair. The foreign commerce of this country has been growing with great rapidity in the past few years, but very little of this increase is with the Latin-American nations. The exports of merchandise from the United States in the past twelve months have amounted to a little over \$1,500,000,000, which represents a gain, of course, such as was never made by any other country in the world. There has been an increase of 50 per cent in exports in the past five years, while the imports have grown only 15 per cent. Only a trifling part of this country's increase in foreign trade is with Central and South America. The United States' trade with Mexico and a few of the other Latin-American countries has been growing recently in an encouraging degree, while with some of the countries of South America trade has been virtually stationary or shrinking. In the past ten years our imports from South America, which were \$118,000,000 at the beginning of that period, have dropped to \$110,000,000. There has been an increase in our exports to South America from \$33,000,000 in 1891 to \$44,000,000 in 1901, but the gain has been insignificant compared with what it ought to have been.

Here is a trade field which the United States ought to have utilized better than it has done. The consideration of means to enlarge this country's commerce with Mexico, Central America and South America is one of the questions which the Pan-American gathering will bring to the front. In some respects the United States has advantages over Europe in the trade with the Americas. For the countries to the south of Cape St. Roque, of course, the distance to the chief ports of Europe is somewhat shorter than it is to New York or Boston. But for all the rest of the independent countries of the American continent the United States has some advantage in position. Notwithstanding all this, however, Germany and some of the other countries on the other side of the Atlantic are making greater commercial conquests in part of Latin America than the United States is doing. This is a matter to which this country must intelligently address itself during the coming session of Congress.

NEW YORK'S MAYOR AS AN AUTOCRAT.

The fact that the next Mayor of New York will conduct the city government under the new charter adds interest to the election contest. The executive who will be elected next month will have almost autocratic power over a community whose administration costs 100 million dollars a year. Under the charter adopted in 1897 the city was subdivided into the boroughs of Manhattan, Brooklyn, the Bronx, Queens and Richmond. These had autonomy only in the conduct of their schools. Their affairs were administered by the central departments over which the Mayor was apparently supreme. In reality his power was limited by his inability to remove appointees at will except during the first six months of their term.

In the current North American Review George I. Rives, head of the recent charter revision commission, explains the changes that were made in the city's constitution. The defects found in the old charter were too great centralization of power and patronage and too little real responsibility. The Mayor could not be held accountable for the conduct of his appointees. He might scold them, but he could not dismiss them except by action through the courts. Two radical changes were adopted. The boroughs were made autonomous so far as related to the

care of their own streets, sewers and public buildings. All such work is to be under the sole control of a locally elected borough president. The Mayor was given power to remove practically any of his appointees, "whenever in his judgment the public interest shall so require." Thus, the Mayor's control over administration is enormously increased, while the patronage of his appointees is largely cut off.

Some of these features of the new charter are of especial interest to Honolulu because of the fact that a charter for this city will have to be framed in the near future. In the proposed charters drawn up last winter the power of appointment and removal by the Mayor was restricted, being subject to the approval of the City Council. It was reasoned by the men who drafted the proposed charter for this city, that without such a check, an incompetent or dishonest man could debauch the city's government. The New York charter revisers took the position that if the Mayor had unlimited power the people would learn that everything depended on the selection of a competent man. The new charter, they held, would contribute toward a higher standard in the nominees.

Only time can show whether their anticipations will prove correct. Other cities, in amending their charters, will take note of the experience of New York under its new form of government.

"Old Eli's" sons fittingly celebrated the 20th anniversary of the founding of Yale College on Wednesday night. At the college itself the greatest celebration in its history was carried out. President Roosevelt was there and every military and civic society in New Haven joined in the parade in his honor.

What will Washington say when it reads the report of the last grand jury: oh, what will it say?

ROOSEVELT'S ADVICE.

If Taken It Would Have Saved the Schley Controversy.

From the Baltimore Sun.

A member of Congress told the story which he had from first source, of how Mr. Roosevelt, just before the war with Spain was declared, once burst impetuously into the cabinet room during a cabinet meeting.

"Here comes Roosevelt," said the President. "Let's see what he has to say. What would you advise," he continued, addressing Mr. Roosevelt, "as to the action of the United States in connection with Cervera's fleet?"

Setting his teeth firmly together, Mr. Roosevelt replied:

"With all due deference to you, Mr. President, since you ask me for my honest opinion, I will say that my advice is to meet Cervera's fleet at the Canaries and sink every d—n ship in the fleet."

"But that would be an act of war," replied President McKinley.

"Certainly it would, Mr. President," said Roosevelt, "but I have noticed in studying history that it is the nation which gets in the first blow that usually wins, and I believe in getting in the first blow."

Deputy Clerk Osborn.

Frederick C. Handy, having resigned as deputy clerk of the United States District Court, to take the office of Chief Deputy United States Marshal, Judge Estee has ordered that Miss Fannie L. Osborn be appointed to fill the position of deputy clerk until the further order of the court. Miss Osborn, who possesses accomplishments which will render her assistance valuable, commenced her new duties in the office of Chief Clerk Maling yesterday.

Injuries Sustained By a Fall.

A Chinese was taken to Queen's hospital yesterday morning suffering from injuries sustained by falling out of a tree in a yard on School street in the vicinity of the Waikele bridge. The Chinese had been employed in cutting branches from the trees, and in some manner missed his footing and fell to the ground.

THE FEDERAL GRAND JURY

ASKS A PECULIAR QUESTION

The Federal grand jury wanted further instructions yesterday afternoon. That body appeared before Judge Estee and Foreman Brown asked if it was necessary for a juror to vote one way or the other, in any matter which came before the grand jury. It was a question which had arisen during the deliberations of the body and the jury would like to be informed as to whether a juror could be allowed to pass his vote, voting neither for a "true bill" against a man, or for "no bill."

Learned attorneys smiled, court officers grinned, spectators picked up their ears. Judge Estee looked surprised, while one of the jurors blushed.

"I instruct you, gentlemen of the grand jury," said Judge Estee, recovering from his surprise, "that you are on this jury to vote. You must vote one way or the other. You must not be afraid of incurring the displeasure of any person by the manner in which you shall vote. You cannot sit by as a spectator and pass your vote. You must vote for an indictment or you must vote for no indictment. Any man who feels that he cannot vote one way or the other is not worthy to be on an American jury. You are dismissed."

"Well, that beats all," said one spectator to another. "I wonder which of the jurors doesn't want to vote." But that is something that only the jurors know, and, of course, they won't tell.

REPUBLICANS MAY CARRY VIRGINIA ELECTION

THEY HAVE A FIGHTING CHANCE IN THE OLD DOMINION.

Democrats Badly Divided Over Local Questions and Many of the Old Time Leaders Are Knifing Their Party Ticket.

(From a Staff Correspondent.)

RICHMOND, Va., Oct. 8.—For the first time in almost twenty years there is a chance that the Republicans will carry the State in the gubernatorial election. Not only do many of the Democrats acknowledge this, but some express pleasure at the prospect, and while they will not vote the Republican ticket, they are determined not to bestir themselves to assist the Democratic nominee. The Republican leaders have been quick to grasp the situation. They have nominated one of the most aggressive men on the stump in the State for Governor, and they are putting up legislative candidates wherever there seems to be any show for them to win.

Virginia, so long overwhelmingly Democratic, appears inclined to get into the Republican column. The cause of the dissatisfaction is twofold. The first is the result of the struggle between Attorney-General Andrew Jackson Montague and Congressman Claude A. Swanson for the nomination for Governor, which the former finally won by a tremendous majority. Swanson was the protégé of United States Senator Thomas S. Martin, the Croker of Virginia politics. He announced early in the campaign that he was Martin's man, and the State machine went solidly for him. Montague made his canvass as the representative of the people, the advocate of honest elections, and the opponent of ring rule. As a result the machine was smashed to fragments, and no attempt has yet been made to collect them and get it in running order again.

But the machine men, though in the minority, are numerous, active and cunning. With their lips they tendered their fealty to Mr. Montague as the nominee of the party but their hearts were and are far from him. The prevailing sentiment is that as Mr. Montague is so much in favor of honest elections he will get one next November, and that the rest will be a surprise to him. The machine men say they will not steal votes for a man who has denounced ballot-box stuffing, but expect to let every man who is registered, be he black or white, cast his vote and then count the vote as cast. Machine Democrats admit privately that if the election of the State were honestly administered Virginia would return a considerable majority both in the State and national elections. This, then, is the first real battle in the history of the State, and it seems to give color to the belief that he may go down before Col. J. Hampton Hoge, the nominee of the Republicans.

The second, and probably the most potent, enemy with which the Democrats have to deal is within their own ranks, the "Constitutional" Convention. Since June 12 last the Suffrage Committee of that body has been endeavoring to frame a law which the negro from the negro politics without touching the ignorant white man. The committee has so far met with success, and twenty-two members have brought in four reports, one of which the convention will wrangle for weeks to come.

The uncertainty of what kind of suffrage law will finally be adopted is agitating the people not a little, and has greatly weakened their faith in the Democratic party. Strange as it may appear, the Democrats living in what is known as the "black belt" where the negroes outnumber the whites two to one, do not wish the blacks to be displaced, for by displacement of their vote it has been found possible in the past to carry elections according to the will of the Democratic leaders. With the negro voters out of the situation in what is entirely changed, in the white sections the people are not opposed to honest elections. From the foregoing it is apparent that the Democratic machine has a rough road ahead of them. The ancient snarl of speakers of the party are silent in the time of greatest need, Martin and Swanson have broken themselves to Europe, and the machineists are determined that for once in the history of Virginia there shall be a fair election.

Of the four suffrage plans presented to the constitutional convention, only two seem to stand any chance of being adopted. One, endorsed by twelve of the members of the committee, presents the following essential features:

Residence in the State two years. Poll tax must be paid six months in advance of the election.

Any man whose wife has paid \$1 in State taxes for the preceding year can vote. Any person who can give a reasonable explanation of the duties of the offices he is to vote for can vote.

After January 1, 1904, the elector must make application to register in his own handwriting and shall prepare his ballot without aid from another. No educational test before January 1, 1904.

All who register before January 1, 1904, shall remain electors for life. No distinguishing marks or symbols on the ballots.

The list of those who have paid capitation tax to be posted.

Provisions made for county electoral boards. The other plan, introduced by six members of the committee, headed by United States Senator John W. Daniel, has these provisions:

Residence in the State, two years. Poll tax must be paid six months in advance of the election of January 1, 1903.

The voter shall be able to read any section of the Constitution or he shall be able to understand its provisions when read to him if registered before January 1, 1904, or he shall have paid \$1 in State tax for the preceding year.

After January 1, 1904, the elector must be able to prepare his own ballot without assistance.

No distinguishing marks or symbols to be printed upon the ballot.

List of those who have paid capitation tax to be posted.

Boards of registration provided for.

Persons who have served in time of war in the United States or Confederate armies, exempted from "understanding" educational qualifications.

David Keli Dead.

David Keli Kuanaka, family name known as David Keli, a former pupil of Oahu College and a well known athlete, died yesterday of pulmonary trouble. He was for a time in the hospital for incurable disease, but had returned to his home in Waikiki. Keli was a son-in-law of J. G. M. Sheldon. He was well known and well liked. The funeral will take place from the late residence near Makiki at 2 o'clock this afternoon. Interment in Kawaiaha cemetery.

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